



Representative Earl Blumenauer

Army Corps Reform Caucus

Early in the 107th Congress, Congressman Blumenauer formed the bipartisan Corps Reform Caucus. The Caucus provides a forum for Members to share their common concerns about the Army Corps of Engineers' projects and policies, and particularly to examine the financial accountability and record of environmental protection of the Army Corps.

WHY AN ARMY CORPS REFORM CAUCUS?

Historically, the Army Corps of Engineers has been involved in many of the nation's waterways navigation and flood control projects. Communities from every state in the union have relied upon the Corps to control rising waters. Until recently, the merits of these projects have gone unquestioned and under-evaluated. Recent reports have raised serious questions about the integrity of current Corps projects, as well as the potential for institutional bias. Because American citizens and the U.S. government have come to rely on the Corps' services, the organization must reflect the highest possible standards and accountability. The Corps also has the responsibility to provide the most efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly solution to each community's individual problems. Congress, through its oversight, policy-making, and appropriations functions, should assist, rather than exacerbate these efforts.

WHAT IS THE CAUCUS' MISSION?

The mission of the Caucus is to provide a forum for interested Members of Congress to work together toward a financially and scientifically accountable Army Corps of Engineers.

WHAT DO MEMBERS OF THE CAUCUS SUPPORT? Members of the Army Corps Reform Caucus support:

- ☑ Greater understanding of issues relating to the Army Corps of Engineers
- ☑ Accountability within the Corps
- ☑ Appropriate cost share from the benefiting communities
- ☑ Greater transparency and independent review of projects
- ☑ A broader congressional role in improving and enhancing the Corps efforts at accountability

WHAT WILL THE CAUCUS DO?

The Army Corps Reform Caucus will undertake a variety of activities, including:

- ☑ Briefings and informational sessions on Army Corps issues
- ☑ Congressional communications and information efforts such as dear colleagues and congressional record statements
- ☑ General support for legislative and regulatory initiatives that serve to promote and enhance the Army Corps' services
- ☑ Acting as a clearinghouse for the sharing of ideas and legislation between Members and interest groups
- ☑ A forum for discussion of these issues

For more information on this topic, please contact Janine Benner in the DC office at (202) 225-4811 or Hillary Barbour in the Portland office at (503) 231-2300, or check out our website at <http://www.house.gov/blumenauer>.

**Caucus
Information**